(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 25 July 2002 (25.07.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 02/058324 A2

(51) International Patent Classification7:

101

- (21) International Application Number: PCT/IB02/00140
- (22) International Filing Date: 18 January 2002 (18.01.2002)
- (25) Filing Language:

English

H04L 12/00

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/262,708 09/839,499

WO 02/058324 A2

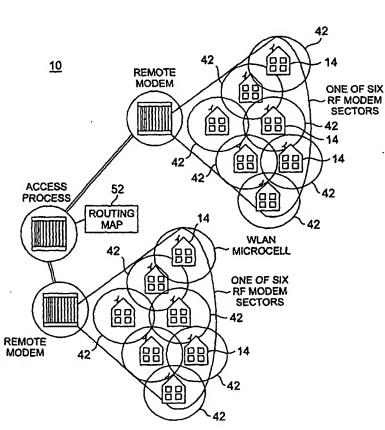
19 January 2001 (19.01.2001) US 20 April 2001 (20.04.2001) US

(71) Applicant: RAZE TECHNOLOGIES, INC. [US/US]; 2540 East Plano Parkway, Suite 188, Plano, TX 75074

- (72) Inventor: STRUHSAKER, Paul, F.; 5304 Brouette Cout, Plano, TX 75023 (US).
- (74) Agents: MUNCK, William, A. et al.; Novakov, Davis & Munck, P.C., 900 Three Galleria Tower, 13155 Noel Road, Dallas, TX 75240 (US).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS, AND AN ASSOCIATED METHOD, FOR PROVIDING WLAN SERVICE IN A FIXED WIRELESS ACCESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: Apparatus, and an associated method, for providing WLAN (wireless local area network) service through a fixed wireless access communication system (10). WLAN transceivers (38) are fixed in position at subscriber stations (14) of the fixed wireless access communication system (10). Each WLAN transceiver (38) defines a coverage area. Through appropriate positioning of the WLAN transceivers (38) at the subscriber stations (14), overlapping coverage areas are formable and between which handovers of communications with a mobile station are effectuated when a mobile station travels out of one coverage area and into another coverage area.



European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, Cl, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

Published:

 without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report WO 02/058324

10

20



APPARATUS, AND AN ASSOCIATED METHOD, FOR PROVIDING WLAN SERVICE IN A FIXED WIRELESS ACCESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

The present invention claims priority to United States
Provisional Application No. 60/262,708 filed January 19,
2001.

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to a manner by which to provide mobile communications in a fixed wireless access (FWA) communication system. More particularly, the present invention relates to apparatus, and an associated method, for providing WLAN (wireless local area network) service at a subscriber station of the fixed wireless access communication system. Mobile stations operation in the WLAN are thereby able to communicate in the WLAN coverage area encompassing the subscriber station. When WLAN service is provided to a plurality of fixed-site subscriber stations, cellular coverage areas are formed, between which handovers of communications are permitted all by way of the fixed wireless access communication system

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Advancements in communication technologies have permitted the development, and implementation, of new types of communication systems. Such communication systems are able to permit the communication of increased amounts of data at increased thruput rates relative to conventional communication systems. And, such new communication systems have permitted communication of information at, and between, communication stations positioned at locations

15

20

25

30



from which communications have conventionally been inconvenient or impractical.

2

communication systems, for instance, exemplarily of communication systems of which new types, and improvements to existing types, have been made possible as a result of advancements in communication technologies. Similar to other types of communication systems, in a radio communication system, information is communicated between a sending station and a receiving station by way of a communication channel. In a radio communication system, unlike other types of communication systems, communication channel formed between the sending and the receiving stations and upon which information communicated by the sending station to the receiving station, is formed of a portion of the electromagnetic spectrum. Radio links are defined upon the portion of the electromagnetic spectrum allocated to communication system.

Because a radio link is utilized upon which to form communication channels, a fixed, or wireline, connection is not required to be formed between the sending and receiving stations to form a communication channel. Information can be communicated between the sending and receiving stations at, and between, locations at which conventional wireline communications would not be permitted. Additionally, the infrastructure costs associated with the installation of a radio communication system are also generally lower than the corresponding costs which would be required to install a conventional, wireline communication system. And, as the advancements in communication technologies have permitted the bandwidth allocated to a radio communication system to be utilized more efficiently, a radio communication can

15

25

increasingly be utilized effectuate a communication service which require relatively significant data thruput capability.

A wireless broadband communication system has been proposed, for instance, by which to permit the effectuation of any of various communication services by way of radio links with fixed-site subscriber stations. Radio links are formed with the subscriber stations by fixed-site base stations. The base stations are installed at spaced-apart locations throughout the geographical area which is to be encompassed by the wireless broadband communication system. Several subscriber stations are capable of communicating with a single base station.

Communication of data is effectuated between the subscriber stations and an associated base station by way of radio links upon which communication channels are defined. Because radio links are utilized between the subscriber stations. stations and the base infrastructure costs associated with the formation of wireline connections between the subscriber stations are obviated. Broadband communications, and communication services which require the communication of broadband data, as well as communication services necessitating smaller data thruput rates are effectuable through use of the wireless broadband communication system.

Advancements in communication technologies have also permitted the development, and introduction, of other types of radio communication systems. Wireless communication systems, sometimes referred to as micro-cellular networks, private networks, and WLANs (wireless local area networks) are exemplary of such systems. Such networks, generally, provide for radio communications with mobile stations

15

4

positioned within communication range of such networks.

Generally, the communication ranges of the mobile stations operable in such systems is relatively small as relatively low-power signals are originated at the mobile stations and, correspondingly, originated at the network infrastructure of such systems to be terminated at the mobile stations. The network infrastructure of such systems typically include fixed-location transceivers, sometimes referred to as access points. The access points are capable of communicating with a group of mobile stations positioned within a micro-cellular, or other, area defined by the access point. In some of such systems, the access points are coupled to a conventional, local area network, also used to interconnect the processing stations of an office computer system. In other such systems, the access points are connected in other manners.

Installation of a wireless broadband communication system to provide broadband services with a plurality of subscriber stations provides a radio infrastructure throughout a geographical area throughout which wireless broadband communication services are effectuable. If a manner could be provided by which to utilize the communication capabilities of a wireless broadband communication system to provide additional communication services, additional benefits of a wireless broadband communication system would be provided.

It is in light of this background information related to radio communication systems that the significant improvements of the present invention have evolved.

30

25

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention, accordingly, advantageously

15

20

25

30



provides apparatus, and an associated method, by which to provide mobile communications in a fixed wireless access (FWA) communication system.

5

Through operation of an embodiment of the present invention, WLAN (wireless local area network) service is provided to a subscriber station of the fixed wireless access communication system. Mobile stations within communication range of the subscriber station, and operable in the WLAN, are able to communicate by way of the WLAN. By providing WLAN service to a plurality of subscriber stations and thereafter providing integrated control over WLAN communications, handover of communications with a mobile station is provided as the mobile station travels between coverage areas formed at separate ones of the subscriber stations.

In one aspect of the present invention, a WLAN transceiver, such as an access point, is installed at a subscriber station of a fixed wireless access communication system. A WLAN transceiver provides localized radio communications throughout a coverage area defined by the communication range of the WLAN transceiver and mobile stations with which WLAN transceiver communications. More than one WLAN transceiver is positionable at the subscriber station, as appropriate. Radio communications between a mobile station and the WLAN transceiver provide for two-way communications with the mobile station.

In another aspect of the present invention, the WLAN transceiver positioned at the subscriber station is, in turn, coupled by way of a radio link with a base station of the fixed wireless access communication system. Information originated at a mobile station is communicated by way of a local radio link to the WLAN transceiver. The

20

WLAN transceiver, in turn, is coupled to a transceiver station, such as an IAD (integrated access device), located at the subscriber station and operable in the fixed wireless access communication system. The integrated access device, or other subscriber-station transceiver, in turn, communicates the information originated at the mobile station to the base station of the fixed wireless access Thereafter, the information is forwarded, as appropriate, to a destination. Analogously, information originated at, or provided to, a base station operable in the fixed wireless access communication system and which is to be terminated at the mobile station is communicated by the base station to the integrated access device, or other subscriber-station transceiver. Subsequent to reception thereat, the information is forwarded to the WLAN transceiver to be transmitted therefrom by way of the local link through the mobile station. communication is effectuable between mobile station and the base station of the fixed wireless access communication system.

In another aspect of the present invention, the WLAN transceivers are installed at a plurality of subscriber stations such that the coverage areas of the separately-installed transceivers at least partially overlap. Integrated control over operation of the WLAN transceivers is provided at the network of the fixed wireless access communication system. Mobile stations which travel between coverage areas defined by different ones of the WLAN transceivers are permitted continued communication by way of local radio links by handing over communications between WLAN transceivers. Ongoing communication sessions with the mobile station continue in spite of handover of

15

20

25

7

communications between the WLAN transceivers.

In another aspect of the present invention, a routing map is maintained at a location coupled to, or integrated within, the fixed wireless access communication system. The routing map maintains a listing of the location of mobile stations operable to communicate by way of local radio links with WLAN transceivers positioned at different ones of the subscriber stations of the fixed wireless access communication system. The locations at which the mobile stations are positioned are updated, as needed, as a mobile station travels between coverage areas defined by different ones of the WLAN transceivers. When information is to be communicated to a particular mobile station, 'the routing map is accessed to retrieve indications of the location at which the mobile station at which information is to be terminated is positioned. Through use of the indications retrieved from the routing map, the information which is to be communicated to the mobile station is able to be most-efficiently routed to the mobile station.

In another aspect of the present invention, when a handover of communications is effectuated, the routing map is updated, and information routed to the mobile by way of a WLAN transceiver from which a handover of communication is effectuated, but not 'yet delivered to the mobile station, is retrieved and then re-routed to the mobile station by way of the mobile station to which communications have been handed over.

In these and other aspects, therefor, apparatus, and an associated method, is provided for a fixed wireless access communication system. The fixed wireless access communication system has at least a first fixed-site base

20

25

30

station and at least a first fixed-site subscriber station capable of communicating with the first fixed-site base station. Radio communication with a mobile station is facilitated. A first local-network radio transceiver is 5 positioned at the at least first fixed-site subscriber station. The first local-network radio transceiver selectably transceives communication signals with the mobile station upon a first local radio link formed between the first local-network radio transceiver and the mobile station when the mobile station is positioned within a selected range of the first fixed-site subscriber station.

A more complete appreciation of the present invention and to the scope thereof can be obtained from the accompanying drawings which are briefly summarized below, the following detailed description of the presentlypreferred embodiments of the invention, and the appended claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 illustrates a functional block diagram of a fixed wireless access (FWA) communication system in which an embodiment of the present invention is operable.

Figure 2 illustrates a representation of a fixed wireless access communication system similar to that shown in Figure 1 here also illustrating a plurality of cellular coverage areas defined by about a plurality of subscriber stations of the fixed wireless access communication system.

Figure 3 illustrates another representation of the fixed wireless access communication system shown in Figures 1 and 2.

Figure 4 illustrates a method flow diagram listing the method of operation of the method of an embodiment of the

20

25

30

q

present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

A fixed wireless access (FWA) communication system 10 provides for radio communications between fixed-site base stations, of which the base station 12 is exemplary and fixed-site subscriber stations 14 of which the subscriber station 14 is exemplary. A radio link 16 upon which forward link channels 18 and reverse link channels 22 is of a bandwidth permitting broadband communication services to be effectuated with devices located at the subscriber station 14.

In the exemplary implementation, an integrated access device (IAD) 24 forms a transceiver located at the subscriber station and at which forward link signals transmitted upon the forward link channels of the radio link are detectable and which generate reverse link signals for transmission upon the reverse link channels of the radio link. A separate IAD 24 is located at each subscriber station of the communication system.

In the exemplary implementation, each base transceiver station includes a remote modem (modulator-demodulator) capable of communicating with seven separate subscriber stations located within a radial sector. In other implementations, the circuitry of the base transceiver station is configured in other manners.

The base station 12, and the set of remote modems thereof, is coupled to an access process 28 which is operable, amongst other things, to perform control operations to control operation of the communication system. The access process 28 is, in turn, coupled to a communication network 32 such as a public-switched telephonic network or a packet data network. And, a

20

25

30

correspondent node 34 is coupled to the communication network. A communication path is formable between the correspondent node and the IAD 24 positioned at the subscriber station by way of the communication network, the access process 28, the base station 12, and the radio link 16. Communication of information by the correspondent node to the integrated access device and from the integrated access device to the correspondent node is effectuable by way of the communication path.

Pursuant to an embodiment of the present invention, a WLAN (wireless local area network) transceiver 38 is positioned at the subscriber station 14 at the integrated access device 24 to be connected to the transceiver circuitry of the integrated access device. transceiver defines a coverage area 42 defining a cell. A mobile station 44 positioned within the cell 42 is capable of communicating with the transceiver 38. That is to say, the radio link 46 is formable between the transceiver 38 and the mobile station 44 upon which forward and reverse link signals are communicated therebetween. Signals originated at the mobile station are communicated upon reverse link channels of the radio link 46 to the WLAN transceiver 38. And, communication signals terminated at the mobile station 44 are communicated upon forward link channels of the radio link 46.

Because of the connection of the WLAN transceiver to the transceiver of the integrated access device 24, signals originated at the mobile station and communicated to the WLAN transceiver can, in turn, be provided to the transceiver of the integrated access device to be communicated upon reverse link channels of the radio link 16 and, thereafter, be communicated to another device, such

15

20

25

30

as the correspondent node 34. Analogously, signals originated at the correspondent node, or elsewhere, can be communicated to the mobile station by way of forward link channels of the radio links 16 and 46 to the mobile station. Thereby communications are effectuable with a mobile station in the fixed wireless access communication system.

In the exemplary implementation, the integrated access device 24 forms a rack-assembly having expansion slots to receive expansion cards thereat. And, the WLAN transceiver is mounted upon, or is otherwise formed at, an expansion card connectable to the expansion slot of the rack-assembly. Thereby the integrated access device together with the WLAN transceiver form an integrated device providing for two-way communication upon the radio link 16 as well as two-way communication upon the radio link 46.

Figure 2 illustrates another view of the communication system 10, here illustrating an implementation in which a subscriber stations 14 plurality of include WLAN transceivers 38 (shown in Figure 1) connected corresponding integrated access devices 24 (also shown in The coverage areas 42 defined by respective Figure 1). ones of the WLAN transceivers are shown in the figure. Adjacent ones of the coverage areas over lap with one The remote modes of the base transceivers are again shown in the Figure as is the access process. arrangement in which the remote modems communicate with subscriber stations positioned within a radio sector is shown in the figure. In other implementations, other arrangements are utilized.

A mobile station initially positioned within, or approximate to, a coverage area 42 defined by a WLAN

15

20

transceiver positioned at a first subscriber station is permitted movement, such as out of the coverage area defined by the transceiver positioned at a first subscriber station and into the coverage area defined by a WLAN transceiver of another subscriber station. Through operation of an embodiment of the present invention, a handover of communications is effectuated from the first WLAN transceiver to another WLAN transceiver, thereby to permit continued communications with the mobile station.

Determination of when to initiate handover of communications is made responsive to measurements of signal characteristics of communication signals communicated between the WLAN transceiver and the mobile station. In one implementation signal characteristics are measured, or otherwise determined, at the mobile station and results of such measures or determinations of are reported back to the WLAN transceiver and appropriate control circuitry. Thereafter, if appropriate, the handover of communications is effectuated.

A routing map 52 is further shown in the figure. The routing map is functionally connected to the access process 28. The routing map includes a listing of the mobile stations, such as the mobile station 46 operable to transceive communication signals pursuant to the WLAN service. Indexed together with the listing the mobile stations are the locations at which the mobile stations are positioned. When communications are to be effectuated with a particular mobile station, such as communications originated by the correspondent node 34, the routing map is accessed and the communication signals are routed to the mobile stations at the position indicated in the routing map. And, when a handover is effectuated, information

routed to a mobile station but not yet delivered is rerouted to the WLAN transceiver to which communications have been handed over.

Figure 3 again illustrates the communication system 10, here showing a plurality of base stations 12 and subscriber stations 14 associated with various ones of the base stations. Each of the subscriber stations includes a WLAN transceiver (shown in Figure 1) various of the base transceiver stations are here shown also to be coupled by way of the communication network 32, again either a PSTN, a packet data network, or a combination of such networks. Movement of a mobile station between the coverage areas is defined by different ones of the subscriber stations are shown in the figure. For instance, movement of a mobile station indicated by the arrow 56 represents movement of the mobile station between subscriber stations associated with separate cells of separate base stations. movement results in access process routing of subsequent communication signals to a new cell of the fixed wireless access communication system, access process routing to a separate remote mode sector, and remote modem routing to a new subscriber integrated access device. The arrow 58 is representative of movement of a mobile station within a single sector of a single base station. Here, the result is a subscriber integrated access device to a remote modem routing change.

The arrow 62 is representative of movement of a mobile station between adjacent sectors defined by a single base station. Such movement results in access process routing of the communication signal to the new remote modem sector transceiver. And, the arrow 64 is representative of movement of a mobile station between sectors of different

WO 02/058324

10

25

30

7/IB02/00140

cells defined by two different base stations. Such movement results in access process to access process routing resolution, access processing routing to the new cell, access process routing to the new remote modem sector, and remote modem routing to the new subscriber access integrated device. Thereby, handovers of communications are effectuable through any movement of a mobile station between coverage areas defined by WLAN transceivers forming a portion of a fixed wireless access communication system.

Figure 4 illustrates a method, shown generally at 72 of an embodiment of the present invention. The method facilitates radio communications with the mobile station in a fixed wireless access communication system having at least a first base station and at least a first subscriber station capable of communicating with the base station. First, and as indicated by the block 74, a local-network positioned at the radio transceiver is subscriber station. Then, and as indicated by the block 20 76, communication signals are selectably transceived with the mobile station upon a first local radio link between the local-network radio transceiver and a mobile station when the mobile station is positioned within a coverage area defined by the local-network radio transceiver.

Through operation of the method of an embodiment of the present invention, WLAN service is provided in a fixed wireless access in a communication system. A mobile station operable in a wireless local area network is thereby able to communicate in the WLAN coverage area encompassing the subscriber station at which the local-network radio transceiver is positioned.

The previous descriptions are of preferred examples

WO 02/058324



15

for implementing the invention, and the scope of the invention should not necessarily be limited by this description. The scope of the present invention is defined by the following claims.

25

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. In a fixed wireless access (FWA) communication system having at least a first fixed-site base station and at least a first fixed-site subscriber station capable of communicating with the first fixed-site base station, an improvement of apparatus for facilitating radio communication with a mobile station, said apparatus comprising:
- positioned at the at least the first fixed-site subscriber station said first local-network radio transceiver for selectably transceiving communication signals with the mobile station upon a first local radio link formed between the first local-network radio transceiver and the mobile station when the mobile station is positioned within a selected range of the first fixed-site subscriber station.
 - 2. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the fixed-site subscriber station includes large-area-network transceiver positioned thereat for transceiving communication signals upon a large-area radio link with the fixed-site base station and wherein said first localnetwork radio transceiver is coupled to the large-areanetwork transceiver such that communication signals generated at the fixed-site base station, communicated upon the large-area radio link and received at the large-areanetwork transceiver, are routed to said first local-areanetwork transceiver to be communicated to the mobile station upon the local radio link.

- 3. The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein communication signals generated at the mobile station and communicated upon the local radio link to said first local-network transceiver are routed to the large-area-network transceiver to be communicated upon the large-area radio link to the fixed-sited base station.
 - 4. The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein the large-areanetwork transceiver comprises a rack assembly having at least one expansion slot at which card-mounted circuitry is connectable, thereafter to form a portion of the rack assembly and wherein said first local-network transceiver comprises a local area network card connectable to the expansion slot.
- 5. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the at least the first fixed-site subscriber station comprises the first fixed-site subscriber station and at least a second fixed-site subscriber station, and wherein said apparatus further comprises:
- a second local-network transceiver positioned at
 the second fixed-site subscriber station, said second
 local-network radio transceiver for selectably transceiving
 communication signals with the mobile station upon a second
 local radio link formed between the second local-network
 radio transceiver and the mobile station when the mobile
 station is positioned within a selected range of the second
 fixed-site subscriber station.

- 6. The apparatus of Claim 5 wherein said first local-network transceiver defines a first cellular area within which the mobile station is capable of transceiving the communication signals with said first local-network transceiver and wherein said second local-network transceiver defines a second cellular area within which the mobile station is capable of transceiving the communication signals with said second local-network transceiver.
- 7. The apparatus of Claim 6 wherein the first cellular 10 area defined by said first local-network transceiver and the second cellular area defined by said second local-network transceiver at least partially overlap and wherein selection is made of with which one of said first and second local-network transceivers, respectively, 15 that the mobile station communicates responsive determination of at least one communication parameter.
 - 8. The apparatus of Claim 7 wherein the at least one communication parameter responsive to which selection is made of with which one of said first and second local-network transceiver that the mobile station communicates comprises a signal quality parameter.
 - 9. The apparatus of Claim 7 wherein the at least one communication parameter responsive to which selection is made of with which one of said first and second local-network transceivers that the mobile station communicates comprises a system load-related parameter.

- 10. The apparatus of Claim 6 wherein the mobile station is permitted movement at least between the first cellular area and the second cellular area and wherein communication hand-offs are performed between said first local-network transceiver and said second local-network transceiver responsive to movement of the mobile station between the first cellular area and the second cellular area defined by said first local-network transceiver and said second local-network transceiver, respectively.
- 11. In the fixed wireless access system of claim 10, a further improvement of a routing map coupled to the at least the first fixed-site base station, said routing map containing an indication of in which of the first cellular area and the second cellular area that the mobile station is positioned.
 - 12. In the fixed wireless access system of Claim 11 wherein the at least the first fixed-site base station is connected to an access processor and wherein said routing map is located at the access processor.
- 13. The routing map of Claim 12 wherein the indication of in which cellular area that the mobile station is located is updated responsive to changes in location of the mobile station.
- 14. The routing map of Claim 12 wherein routing of communication signals to the mobile station is selected responsive to values of the indication contained thereat.

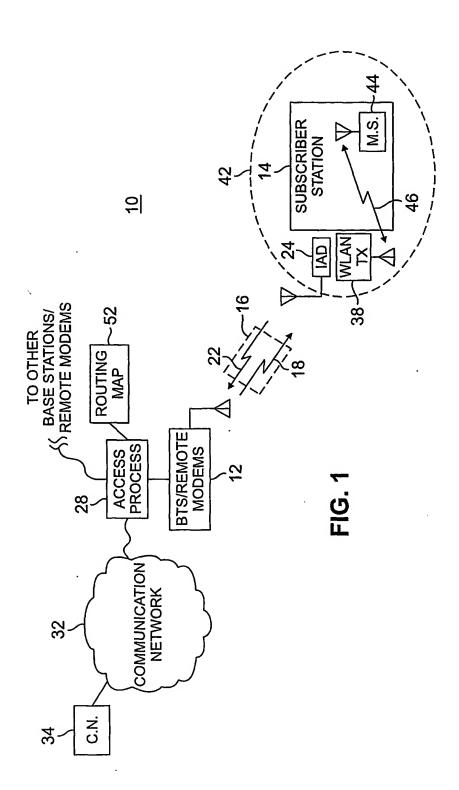
20

- 15. The routing map of Claim 14 wherein, subsequent to updating of the values of the indication contained thereat, and responsive to hand-off of communications between said first local-network radio transceiver and said second local-network radio transceiver, undelivered communication signals are rerouted according to updated values of the indication.
- 16. In a method for communicating in a fixed wireless access (FWA) communication system having at least a first fixed-site base station and at least a first fixed-site subscriber station capable of communicating with the first fixed-site base station, an improvement of a method for facilitating radio communications with a mobile station, said method comprising:
- positioning a first local-network radio transceiver at the at least the first fixed-site subscriber station; and

selectably transceiving communication signals with the mobile station when a first local radio link formed between the first local-network radio transceiver and the mobile station when the mobile station is positioned within a selected range of the first fixed-site subscriber station.

- 17. The method of Claim 16 wherein the first fixedsite subscriber station includes a large-area-network transceiver positioned thereat for transceiving communication signals upon a large-area radio link with the fixed-site base station and wherein said operation of positioning comprises coupling the first local-network radio transceiver to the large-area-network transceiver such that communication signals generated at the fixed-site base station, communicated upon the large-area radio link and received at the large-area-network transceiver, are routed to the first local-area-network transceiver to be communicated to the mobile station upon the local radio link.
- 18. The method of Claim 16 wherein the at least the fixed-site subscriber station comprises the first fixed-site subscriber station and at least a second fixed-site subscriber station, said method further comprising the operation of positioning a second local-network radio transceiver at the second fixed-site subscriber station.
- 19. The method of Claim 18 wherein the mobile station moves between coverage areas defined by the first local-network radio transceiver and by the second local-network radio transceiver, said method further comprising the operation of handing-off communications with the mobile station between the first local-network radio transceiver and the second local-network radio transceiver when the mobile station moves between the coverage areas.

20. The method of Claim 19 comprising the additional operation of maintaining a routing map indicting a routing map indicating in which coverage area the mobile station is positioned.



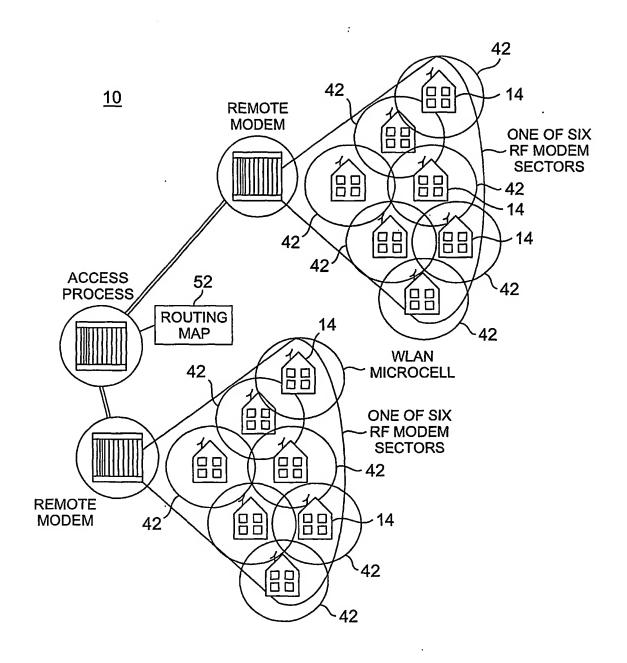
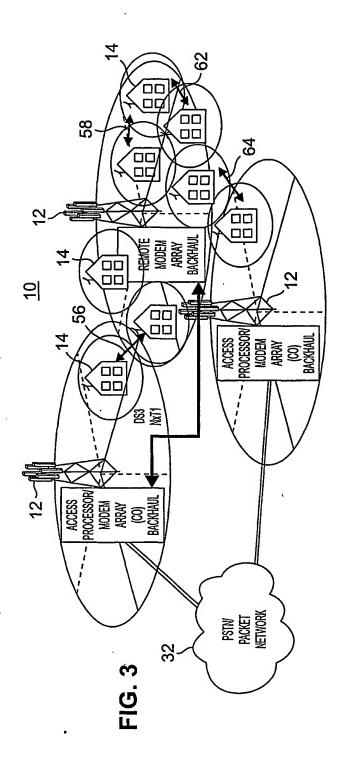


FIG. 2

3/3



72 74 RADIO TRANSCEIVER AT THE FIXED-SITE SUBSCRIBER STATION

1G. 4 SELECTABLY TRANSCEIVE

76 COMMUNICATION SIGNALS
WITH THE MOBILE STATION

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 25 July 2002 (25.07.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 02/058324 A3

(51) International Patent Classification7:

101

- H04Q 7/20 (
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/IB02/00140
- (22) International Filing Date: 18 January 2002 (18.01.2002)
- (25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/262,708 19 January 2001 (19.01.2001) US 09/839,499 20 April 2001 (20.04.2001) US

- (71) Applicant: RAZE TECHNOLOGIES, INC. [US/US]; 2540 East Plano Parkway, Suite 188, Plano, TX 75074 (US).
- (72) Inventor: STRUHSAKER, Paul, F.; 5304 Brouette Cout, Plano, TX 75023 (US).
- (74) Agents: MUNCK, William, A. et al.; Novakov, Davis & Munck, P.C., 900 Three Galleria Tower, 13155 Noel Road, Dallas, TX 75240 (US).

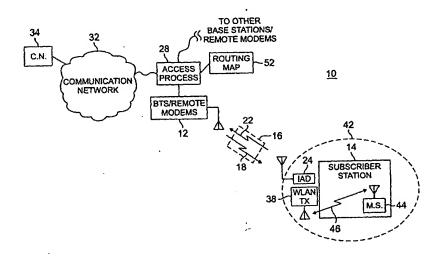
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS, AND AN ASSOCIATED METHOD, FOR PROVIDING WLAN SERVICE IN A FIXED WIRELESS ACCESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: Apparatus, and an associated method, for providing WLAN (wireless local area network) service through a fixed wireless access communication system (10). WLAN transceivers (38) are fixed in position at subscriber stations (14) of the fixed wireless access communication system (10). Each WLAN transceiver (38) defines a coverage area. Through appropriate positioning of the WLAN transceivers (38) at the subscriber stations (14), overlapping coverage areas are formable and between which handovers of communications with a mobile station are effectuated when a mobile station travels out of one coverage area and into another coverage area.



(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 10 October 2002

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



Internation Application No PCT/IB 02/00140

		ru l	71B 02/00140						
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H04Q7/20									
•									
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC									
B. FIELDS SEARCHED									
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 H04Q									
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched									
Electronic d	Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)								
EPO-Internal									
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT									
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the re	elevant passages	Relevant to claim No.						
									
X	EP 0 690 638 A (US WEST TECHNOLO 3 January 1996 (1996-01-03) column 8, line 3 - line 47 column 7, line 3 - line 6 figure 3	1-20							
X	EP 0 690 637 A (US WEST TECHNOLO 3 January 1996 (1996-01-03) column 4, line 6 -column 5, line figure 4	1,16							
Х	WO 99 29126 A (JOERESSEN OLAF J MOBILE PHONES LTD (FI)) 10 June 1999 (1999-06-10) figures 1,4	1,16							
		· -/							
X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.									
*Special categories of cited documents: *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *T* tater document published after the international filling date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but died to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention									
E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone									
which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "O" document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled									
P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed the international filing date but later than the priority date but later than the international filing date but later than the priority date but later than the priority date but later than the priority									
Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report									
24	July 2002	02/08/2002							
Name and m	alling address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2	Authorized officer							
	NL - 2280 HV Filjswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Schneider, G							



PCT/IB 02/00140

(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	12
tegory • Ctation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Retevant to claim No.
WO 99 09762 A (HEWLETT PACKARD CO) 25 February 1999 (1999-02-25) figures 1,2	1,16
US 5 475 735 A (LODWIG JOHN P ET AL) 12 December 1995 (1995-12-12) column 4, line 40 -column 5, line 55	5-10



PCT/18 02/00140

	Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP	0690638	A	03-01-1996	US EP EP JP JP	5604789 A 0690637 A2 0690638 A2 8047031 A 8047032 A	18-02-1997 03-01-1996 03-01-1996 16-02-1996 16-02-1996
EP	0690637	A	03-01-1996	EP EP JP JP US	0690637 A2 0690638 A2 8047031 A 8047032 A 5604789 A	03-01-1996 03-01-1996 16-02-1996 16-02-1996 18-02-1997
MO	9929126	A	10-06-1999	AU EP GB WO	1500299 A 1038409 A1 2347321 A ,B 9929126 A1	16-06-1999 27-09-2000 30-08-2000 10-06-1999
WO	9909762	A	25-02-1999	US WO	6243577 B1 9909762 A1	05-06-2001 25-02-1999
US	5475735	A	12-12-1995	AU CA EP FI JP WO	1045295 A 2153249 A1 0682845 A1 953691 A 8506471 T 9515664 A1	19-06-1995 08-06-1995 22-11-1995 21-09-1995 09-07-1996 08-06-1995